

107TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. CON. RES. 165

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

MAY 21, 2002

Received and referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and
Pensions

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

Expressing the sense of the Congress that continual research and education into the cause and cure for fibroid tumors be addressed.

Whereas the vast majority of fibroids occur in women of reproductive age, and between 20 and 40 percent of women are diagnosed;

Whereas African American women are twice as likely to be diagnosed with fibroids than Caucasian women;

Whereas fibroids are the most frequently diagnosed tumor of the female pelvis and range in size from 1mm to more than 20cm (8 inches) in diameter;

Whereas they are not associated with cancer and almost never develop into cancer (less than one percent becoming malignant);

Whereas the symptoms of fibroids can include excessive bleeding during menstrual periods, spotting or bleeding between periods, frequent urination, and/or lower back pain;

Whereas the preferred method of treatment for fibroids is a hysterectomy, which is the complete removal of the uterus, leaving the woman unable to bear children for the rest of her life;

Whereas diets rich in fatty foods have been a contributing factor to an increased risk in fibroid tumors;

Whereas there are alternative methods to a hysterectomy available, but they are less permanent, and have menopausal symptoms;

Whereas, in cases of hormonal treatment, the fibroids will regrow should the treatment cease; and

Whereas research conducted by the National Institute of Environmental Health indicated that while estrogen and progesterone are contributing factors, fibroids can be targeted by environmental chemicals whose effects are mediated through the estrogen and/or progesterone receptors: Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate*
2 *concurring), That—*

1 (1) the Congress recognizes the health and edu-
2 cational needs of women in the United States who
3 may be suffering from fibroids;

4 (2) it is the sense of the Congress that the med-
5 ical community should explore alternatives to
6 hysterectomies in greater detail, so that women who
7 choose to bear children in their lives may do so,
8 while eliminating recurring fibroids; and

9 (3) the Congress—

10 (A) encourages women to pay greater at-
11 tention to their reproductive health by making
12 regular visits to their OB/GYNs; and

13 (B) encourages women and their physi-
14 cians to know all safe options available for the
15 prevention and cure of fibroids.

Passed the House of Representatives May 20, 2002.

Attest:

JEFF TRANDAHL,

Clerk.